

BLACK DIAMOND  
WESTERN

DEEP DIMENSION

10¢



# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

JUNE  
NO. 51



PDC

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# WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



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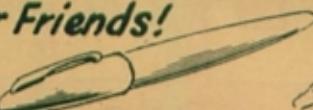
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SHOOTING PEN

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

HINDU BOTTLE

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

SNERD TEETH

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

MICROSCOPE

BALL-POINT PENS

MAGIC LAMP

I enclose \$ ..... to cover.

COTORERO TRICK

# BLACK DIAMOND

IN "THE PASTURES OF PERIL"

THE BLACK DIAMOND AND HIS LOYAL SIDEKICK BUMPER WERE HEADING FOR TYLER VALLEY, WHERE NOTHING MORE EXCITING THAN A BARBECUE USUALLY OCCURED! THIS TIME SOMETHING MORE EVIL WAS COOKING! A WITCHES' BREW OF INJUSTICE AND MURDER STIRRED BY TRIGGER-HAPPY HANDS! DEATH WAS BEING DISHED OUT WHOLESALE TO TYLER VALLEY...AS THE BLACK DIAMOND SOON LEARNED FOR HIMSELF!

GET 'EM UP, YOU TWO! DROP YOUR GUN BELTS! DROP 'EM, I SAID!

WHY?

BECAUSE WE'LL BLAST YOU TO KINGDOM COME IF YOU DON'T, THAT'S WHY!



THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY! YOU'RE TRESPASSIN' AGIN' THE LAW! WE CAN SHOOT YOU IF WE WANT!

I'M SURE YOU WILL! I'VE SEEN YOUR PRETTY FACES ON WANTED POSTERS IN SONORA! WHAT'S ONE MURDER MORE, EH?

YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU SAID THAT! SHOOT 'EM, ED!





THE MAN  
IS DEAD,  
BLACK  
DIAMOND!

HE PROBABLY  
CAUGHT THESE RUSTLERS  
BRANDING HIS STOCK...  
AND THEY SHOT HIM!  
LET'S GET 'EM!

:GASP!  
D..DO YUH KNOW WHO'S  
AFTER US? IT'S THE  
BLACK DIAMOND!

HE'LL NAIL  
US FOR SURE IN THE OPEN!  
HEAD FOR THE WOODS! WE  
CAN SCATTER THERE!

THE POLE-  
CATS! THEY'RE BUSTING  
UP IN THREE  
DIRECTIONS!

NO USE  
FOLLOWING 'EM NOW,  
BUMPER! WE'LL PICK UP  
THEIR TRAIL ANOTHER  
TIME! LET'S RETURN TO  
THE SIDEWINDERS WE  
SHOT! MAYBE ONE IS IN A  
TALKATIVE MOOD!

NO LUCK,  
DIAMOND! THESE BIRDS  
WON'T SING AGAIN!

THE RANCH  
HOUSE IS NEARBY! MAYBE THEY  
KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!

I WAS AFRAID  
THIS WOULD HAPPEN..! SOB!  
JIM KNEW WE WERE BEING RUSTLED  
BUT I PLEADED WITH HIM NOT TO  
INVESTIGATE ALONE! HE  
WOULDN'T LISTEN! ;SOB!;

MR. BROOK  
COULDN'T HELP HIMSELF!  
HE HAD TO FIRE ALL THE  
HELP EXCEPT ME! TIMES  
ARE AWFUL IN THE VALLEY!  
BEEF PRICES ARE LOW  
AN' THE MARKET IS  
GLUTTED!

IT'S TRUE, BLACK DIAMOND!  
EVERY RANCH IN THE  
VALLEY IS ON THE VERGE  
OF BANKRUPTCY!

BUMPER, LET'S  
STAY HERE AND PUT THINGS  
IN ORDER FOR MRS. BROOK!  
SHE CAN USE OUR  
HELP!

AND SO FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS...

GOSH! I HATE TO THINK OF MRS.  
BROOK DOING WORK LIKE THIS!  
THINK WE'LL PICK UP THOSE  
RATS' TRAIL AGAIN?

THEY'LL TURN UP,  
BUMPER, AND WHEN  
THEY DO, WE'LL BE  
READY!

ONE EVENING, AT BROOK RANCH HOUSE ...

I WAS SORRY TO  
HEAR ABOUT HIM, BESS! HOW'LL YOU  
MANAGE WITH THE KIDS?

WE'LL GET ALONG, CARL!  
IS THAT WHY YOU CAME  
HERE...TO OFFER YOUR  
CONDOLENCES?

YOU KNOW  
HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU,  
BESS! BUT YOU PREFERRED  
JIM TO ME! WELL, MY OLD  
OFFER OF MARRIAGE  
STILL GOES!

THANKS, CARL!  
THE ANSWER IS  
STILL NO!

YOU CAN'T  
TURN ME DOWN, AGAIN! THIS  
RANCH WILL GO TO POT! YOU'VE  
GOT NOBODY BUT  
ME TO TURN  
TO!

CARL DENTON!  
YOU LET  
ME GO!

YOU HEARD  
MRS. BROOK,  
DENTON!

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOU,  
DENTON, BUT I'M ALWAYS SUSPICIOUS  
OF MEN WHO FORCE THEMSELVES  
ON OTHER PEOPLE!

TO BLAZES  
WITH WHAT YOU'RE SUSPICIOUS  
OF! YOU KEEP YOUR  
NOSE OUT OF MY BUSINESS!  
YOU'VE GOT NO  
AUTHORITY HERE!

THERE'S A RANCHERS MEETING  
TOMORROW NIGHT! IF YOU WANT  
TO STAY OUT OF THE POORHOUSE  
BESS, YOU'LL ATTEND!

I'M MANAGING MRS.  
BROOK'S AFFAIR, DENTON! I'LL  
BE THERE IF ONLY TO SEE  
WHAT YOU'RE UP TO!

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT  
IN TOWN...

I'M GIVING YOU THE VALLEY'S ONLY SOLUTION! HIRE  
MY MUSTANGERS TO HUNT DOWN THE WILD MUSTANGS  
THAT ARE EATING UP YOUR PASTURES! I'LL  
SELL THE HOSS FLESH IN KANSAS CITY!

YOUR  
SHARE WON'T COME TO MUCH! BUT  
IT'LL AT LEAST TIDE YOU OVER TILL  
YOU CAN SELL CATTLE AGAIN!

I'LL SPEAK FOR  
MRS. BROOK! COUNT HER  
OUT! IF THE REST OF YOU  
ARE SMART, YOU'LL STAY  
OUT, TOO!

IN ORDER TO CHASE MUSTANGS, DENTON'S  
BOYS MUST CROSS EVERYBODY'S PROPERTY!  
WELL, I DON'T TRUST HIS MUSTANGERS!

HEY, BOYS!  
HE INSULTED  
US!

GET 'EM, MEN! THAT  
MARSHAL'S GOT NO  
JURISDICTION IN  
OUR BAILIWICK!



YOU SURE RILED DENTON! HE'LL SPEND DAY AND NIGHT HUNTING YOUR HEAD!

ONLY TO LOSE HIS OWN! I WANT TO DRAW DENTON'S FIRE! I'M POSITIVE HIS MUSTANGERS ARE THE SAME COYOTES WHO MURDERED JIM BROOK!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS ONE OF THE MUSTANGERS PASSES BY...



A MASK! LIKE THOSE RUSTLERS WERE WEARING! WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, BUMPER! ONCE DENTON FINDS OUT THIS COYOTE IS MISSING, HE'LL COME CALLING ON US!

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT AT THE RANCH HOUSE...

WE GOT HIM! THE BLACK DIAMOND IS DEAD!

GUESS AGAIN! YOU BLASTED AWAY AT A DUMMY DRESSED IN MY CLOTHING!

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! RUN!

THEY'RE DENTON'S MUSTANGERS! BOTH OF 'EM!

NO, SHERIFF - OUTLAWS! RUSTLERS IN THE PAY OF DENTON! THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE!

BLACK DIAMOND! LOOK!

CROOKED HORSE-SHOE PRINTS!

IT'S MY GUESS WE'LL FIND THE HORSE SHOE AT DENTON'S RANCH! LET'S GO!

AN HOUR LATER, AT DENTON'S RANCH...

RAISE 'EM, BLACK DIAMOND! THIS TIME WE WON'T MISS!

ONLY PROVING WHAT I SAID LAST NIGHT, DENTON! YOU'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH RUSTLERS! YOU ORDERED JIM BROOK'S DEATH TO GET BESS BROOK FOR YOURSELF!

WHO DENIES IT? YOU  
WON'T LIVE TO TELL ANY BODY! YOU  
WERE RIGHT ABOUT THE MUSTANGERS,  
TOO! IT'S A TRICK TO LET US RUSTLE  
THE RANCHERS' CATTLE AT  
WILL!

DID YOU  
HEAR THAT,  
SHERIFF?

EVERY WORD OF  
IT, BLACK DIAMOND! THEY'RE  
AS GOOD AS HANGED!

ANOTHER  
TRICK! BUT  
YOU'LL NEVER  
TAKE ME  
ALIVE!

WRONG AS  
USUAL!

A FEW DAYS LATER, AT THE BROOK RANCH...

BESIDES EVERYTHING ELSE,  
BLACK DIAMOND! THEY SAY YOU  
FOUND A NEW MARKET FOR OUR  
BEEF ON THE WEST COAST! HOW  
CAN TYLER VALLEY THANK  
YOU ENOUGH?

BY BELIEVING  
THAT RIGHT WILL ALWAYS  
TRIUMPH OVER MIGHT! THAT'S  
ALL THE THANKS A LAW-  
MAN WANTS!



TH  
EN

# BUCK ROPER

in "Vengeance  
At The Rodeo"



DINKY CAN'T GET OUT OF THE WAY! IF THE BULL HITS HIM AGAIN, HE'LL KILL HIM FOR SURE!



THIS SHOULD GET OLD TORO'S MIND OFF DINKY!

ROPER, YOU CRAZY FOOL! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? YOU WANT TO GET GORED, TOO?



NOT IF I CAN HELP IT! BUT I WANT TO GIVE THIS STEER A NEW TARGET...



ME!



BUCK! THE BULL'S CATCHING UP! HEAD FOR THE SIDE AND OVER THE FENCE!

I CAN'T!  
WITHOUT ME TO  
CHASE, HE'D GO  
AFTER DINKY  
AGAIN!

8

HURRY, YOU GUYS!  
OPEN THAT CHUTE!

WHAT GOOD WILL  
THAT DO? IF YOU LEAD HIM  
INSIDE HE'LL HAVE YOU  
TRAPPED! YOU'LL BE  
RIPPED TO PIECES!

THERE'S NOT A SECOND TO  
LOSE! DON'T ARGUE WITH ME!  
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING...  
I HOPE!

CRASH

5





WAKE UP, DOC! WAKE UP! WHAT HAPPENED?

MMH!  
EGROAN! ROPER!  
THANK HEAVENS  
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!  
DINKY'S OUT TO  
GET YOU!

GET ME?

YES! HE TOOK MY GUN WHEN  
I WASN'T LOOKING AND TOLD  
ME HE WAS GOING OUT TO  
FILL YOU FULL-OF LEAD!  
WHEN I TRIED TO STOP  
HIM, HE HIT ME!

HE MUST  
BE ON HIS  
WAY TO THE  
RODEO  
NOW!

IN HIS WEAKENED CONDITION, HE'LL  
PASS OUT BEFORE HE GETS  
THERE! AND TO MAKE MATTERS  
WORSE, THERE'S A MOUNTAIN  
LION ON THE LOOSE! HE'S  
LIABLE TO WIND  
UP A MEAL FOR  
THAT CAT!

I'D BETTER SEE  
IF I CAN FIND  
HIM!

NOT YOU! IF  
DINKY SHOULD  
SPOT YOU BEFORE  
YOU SEE HIM,  
HE'S SURE TO  
AMBUSH YOU!

I'D BETTER GO!

YOU'RE MUCH  
TOO WEEK! I'LL  
JUST HAVE TO TAKE  
MY CHANCES!

BUT AS BUCK RIDES THROUGH  
THE HILLS SEARCHING FOR DINKY,  
THE DOCTOR'S WORST FEARS  
COME TRUE ... DINKY SEES  
BUCK FIRST!

WHAT LUCK! I WAS TOO  
TIRED TO RIDE ANY FURTHER!  
BUT NOW I DON'T HAVE  
TO GO LOOKING  
FOR HIM! HE'S  
RIDING RIGHT  
INTO RANGE!

THE SMELL OF FRESH  
BLOOD ATTRACTS  
THE MOUNTAIN  
LION LURKING  
NEARBY!

DON'T MOVE,  
DINKY! THE MOUNTAIN  
LION'S RIGHT ABOVE  
MAKING UP ITS MIND  
WHICH ONE OF US TO  
ATTACK!

DON'T BLUFF  
ME! I'M CLOS-  
ING IN TO  
FINISH YOU OFF  
AND NOTHING'S  
GOING TO  
STOP ME!

BUT BY  
MOVING, DINKY  
ELECTS HIMSELF  
THE MOUNTAIN  
LION'S  
TARGET...

YIII!

THIS IS MY  
CHANCE TO RUN!  
BUT I CAME OUT TO  
TO SAVE THAT  
CRAZY CLOWN AND  
THAT'S EXACTLY  
WHAT I'M GOING TO  
TRY TO DO!

HELP!  
HELP!

I'VE GOT TO  
KILL THAT BEAST  
WITH ONE SHOT —  
OR IT'LL BE  
CURTAINS FOR  
DINKY!

BANG!

AND TO  
MAKE MATTERS  
WORSE, HE  
WINGED MY  
SHOOTING  
ARM!

AARRGHH!

HE'S PASSED OUT! PROBABLY  
A COMBINATION OF WEAKNESS  
AND FRIGHT! I'D BETTER  
HUSTLE HIM RIGHT BACK  
TO THE DOCTOR!

THIS IS TOUGH WORK  
WITH ONE ARM! I HOPE  
I'LL BE ABLE TO MANAGE  
ALL THE WAY TO THE  
DOC'S!

DISREGARDING  
PAIN, THE  
DETERMINED  
AND COURAGEOUS  
BUCK MAKES  
IT BACK, AND  
LATER AT THE  
DOCTOR'S...

IS IT SAFE TO  
LEAVE YOU TWO  
MEN ALONE?

IT'S OKAY,  
DOC! I'VE  
COME TO MY  
SENSES!

I MADE A BIG MISTAKE ABOUT  
YOU, BUCK! ONLY A REAL SQUARE  
SHOOTER WOULD HAVE RISKED  
HIS LIFE TO SAVE ME AFTER  
WHAT I DID!

LET'S SHAKE  
AND FORGET  
IT! FROM  
NOW ON,  
WE'RE  
FRIENDS!

THE  
END

# DRESSED TO KILL

Andy looked across the counter of the diner at his father who was wiping the cups and saucers very carefully, and then at Gramps who sat at one of the tables with a cup of hot coffee in his hand. It seemed to Andy that as long as he could remember, Gramps had been sitting there with the cup of coffee in his hand. Gramps and Pops used to go gold prospecting in the old days — before Pops broke his leg. That broken leg had taken Pops out of circulation, and he had to open the diner on the highway.

The kids at school kept telling Andy how their fathers were cow punchers, carried their guns low, and were always on the verge of one adventure or another. They were either after rustlers, outlaws, or just rounding up cattle — but it was exciting. More exciting than washing dishes.

"Pops looked up from the soapy sink. "What's the matter Andy?" he asked.

"I been thinkin', Pops." Andy looked squarely into the center of a dirty dish on his tray. "Couldn't we sell this diner and get a job on a ranch?"

"Why, son!" exploded Gramps, "You know Pops couldn't ride a horse with his bad leg. No ranch would hire him!"

"I don't mean ropin' and ridin', I mean workin' in the kitchen," Andy ended weakly.

"There's no money in that," Pops said softly. "We got a nice steady business here, son. Some day you'll appreciate it. What's eatin' at you, anyway, Andy?"

"Nothin'"

"C'mon, Andy, somethin's on your mind," his father said softly. "I thought we were pals."

"You know Pete Harris," Andy said slowly.

"He's one of the boys in your class, isn't he?"

"Yeah. His father was made foreman of the Double Y ranch yesterday."

"Blast it!" shouted Gramps. "We can't all be heroes! There was the time at Bull Noose Creek when your father and me was ambushed by a bunch o' howlin' critters 'd make your hair curl . . ." Gramps pulled open the small drawer beneath the cash register and pulled out a pistol, shoving the butt under Andy's nose. "See them notches, sonny," he shouted, "they didn't come from pussyfooting . . ."

"All right, Gramps," Pops said softly, "Andy isn't interested in yesterday . . . he's worried about tomorrow. Do you think, Andy, the boys might sit up and take notice if you went to school on a pony instead of a bicycle?"

Andy's eyes shone. "Do you mean that, Pops?"

"Where'll you get the money?" snorted Gramps. "You been savin' for two years to get a car, and you're only ready to look for a bargain now!"

"I just decided a car gets too many flat tires," grinned Pops, "and you got to walk too far to get gas and oil. Now you take a horse, you got no problems at all!"

Andy screamed Yipeee only once and dashed into the kitchen with the dishes dancing on his tray.

"Put that gun back, Gramps, afore you hurt yourself," Pops said.

"All right. All I ask is that you get Andy a horse with a rumble seat. I'm gettin' too tired to walk."

\* \* \* \* \*

It was almost closing time for the diner. The dishes and glassware were washed and stacked. The mirrored interiors had been scrubbed down by an ambitious Andy until they sparkled with a brightness that rivalled the lights. Andy sat in a corner finishing up his homework, and Pops was counting out the cash so he could bank it in the morning, when the sound of a big car pulled up to a stop outside.

A little man came in, a dude, Andy noticed as he closed his school books. The man stopped for a moment at his reflection in the wall mirror, straightened a tie that needed no straightening, and smoothed back his slick black hair that already was plastered to his head. He sat down at one of the tables near the wall and faced the mirror. Andy handed him a menu, but he didn't look at it.

"A steak and french fries, kid. I like my steak rare. Hop to it!"

The dude was wearing swell clothes, Andy admitted mentally. Never saw anything like it in the catalog. Even while the dude ate he would look at his suit, and maybe straighten the points in his pocket handkerchief, or tuck at his shirt collar so that the points would be even.

He finished the steak, and downed the coffee, and Andy scribbled a check for the meal. The dude didn't look at it. He got up, and looked into the mirror, buttoning his jacket. Satisfied at his reflection he walked over to Pops at the register, put his hand in the pocket of his jacket and said. "This is a stick up. Empty the register like a good boy, and put the money on the counter. If you do what I say nobody'll get hurt."

Gramps spit out his coffee all over a fresh tablecloth and Pops just stood there.

"C'mon," the dude jerked at his pocket angrily, "I ain't got all day." The outline of a gun stood out large and clear as it pressed against the smooth cloth.

Pops wheeled awkwardly on his twisted leg, opened a drawer, and a six-shooter roared almost as fast as it saw the light. The dude dropped to the floor, and the suit became a dark red near the shoulder. His hand came slowly out of his pocket, and lifeless fingers dropped an automatic to the floor.

"Get the sheriff, Andy," Pops said. "We got a customer here who won't pay for his steak and potatoes!"

"Golly!" gasped Andy, as he ran out. "Wait till I tell the guys tomorrow!"

\* \* \* \* \*

Pops mopped up the last remains of the blood on the floor, and Gramps sipped at his last cup of coffee.

"You shouldn't of taken the chance," Gramps said over and over again. "I know the horse was important to the kid, but not for you to risk your neck over it. Why, one squeeze of the trigger, and you'd be full of lead now!"

Pops wrung the mop out and picked up the pail. "It wasn't as serious as that," Pops smiled. "I knew he wouldn't pull the trigger. He didn't look like the kind of guy who'd put a hole in a nice new suit!"

THE END

# RED FIRE

RAILROADS HAVE MADE OUR COUNTRY GREAT! THE CRISS-CROSSING TRACKS THAT LINE THE FACE OF THE FORTY-EIGHT STATES FORM ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST COMFORTABLE NETWORKS OF RAILROADS IN THE WORLD! BUT THE LAYING OF THE ROADS, THEIR PLANNING AND BUILDING COST MUCH MONEY AND MANY LIVES! IT WAS DURING THE BUILDING OF A SPUR LINE THAT RED FIRE WAS INTRODUCED TO RAILROADING, AND ON A TRAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE...WHICH ALMOST PROVED TO BE HIS...

## RIDE TO DOOM!



AIN'T THERE  
NOTHIN' WE CAN DO TO  
STOP ALL THIS WASTEFUL  
KILLIN', MR. GRANT?

THE RAILROAD MUST GO  
THROUGH, ED! IT'S MY JOB  
TO GET IT DONE EVEN IF I  
MUST GET THE TROOPS  
OUT TO HELP US DO IT!

LET'S HEAD  
BACK TO TOWN! I WANT TO SEE  
THE SHERIFF! I'M TIRED OF PUSSY FOOTIN'  
AROUND WITH THEM INDIANS! WE GOT TO  
GET THE FEDERAL TROOPS...

IF'N WE DO, IT'LL  
BE A MASSACRE,  
MR. GRANT!

PACIFIC  
RAILROAD

LATER,  
AT THE  
SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE...

EITHER YOU SEND FOR THE  
TROOPS, SHERIFF, OR I WILL!  
I'M TIRED OF LOSING MEN, AND  
I'M FALLIN' BEHIND ON  
MY SCHEDULE!

NOW, NOW, GRANT,  
THOSE INJUNS NEVER ACTED  
UP BEFORE! GIVE ME A WEEK  
TO FIND OUT WHAT'S BOTHERIN'  
THEM! THE TROOPS COULD  
START AN INJUN WAR THAT'D  
SPLIT THE COUNTRY  
IN TWO...

EDWARD  
MURKIN,  
WHITEHORN

GIVE ME  
TIME, GRANT, TO SEND A  
DEPUTY TO SPEAK TO  
CHIEF SITTING BIRD!

ALL RIGHT,  
SHERIFF, BUT I WARN YOU,  
NEXT WEEK I ASK MY COMPANY FOR  
FEDERAL TROOPS, AND WE'LL BLAST  
THOSE INJUNS OUT OF THE  
HILLS!

WHAT'S  
EATING  
HIM?

LISTEN! I WANT YOU TO SEE CHIEF SIT-  
TING BIRD AND TELL HIM IF HE DOESN'T  
LAY OFF THE RAILROAD, THE FEDERAL  
TROOPS WILL CHASE HIS TRIBE OUT OF  
THE STATE!

SHERIFF  
OFFICE

WHERE DO I  
FIND THE CHIEF, SHERIFF, AND  
HOW DO I TALK TO HIM 'FORE  
HE KILLS ME?

WE GOT ONE  
INJUN IN THIS TOWN THAT CAN TAKE  
YOU TO HIM! RED FIRE! C'MON AND  
MEET HIM! YOU CAN TRUST  
HIM TO GET YOU  
THROUGH!



THE SHORT  
ONE IS THE DEPUTY! LET HIM  
GET OUT OF TOWN, THEN MAKE  
SURE HE DON'T GET BACK!

I GOT YOU,  
GRANT! YOU CAN COUNT  
ON ME!

RED FIRE, I'D  
LIKE YOU TO TAKE MY  
DEPUTY TO SEE CHIEF  
SITTING BIRD!

GLAD TO, SHERIFF!  
BUT IT MAY NOT BE EASY, FOR THE CHIEF  
DOES NOT CONSIDER US  
HIS FRIENDS!

I HOPE THAT  
WHEN THE POW WOW IS OVER, WE'LL  
KNOW WHAT'S BITIN' THE CHIEF, AND  
WE'LL ALL BE FRIENDS AGAIN!

YOU CAN COUNT  
ON ME SHERIFF TO  
HELP ALL I CAN!

THE DEPUTY'S GOT COMPANY... IT'S RED FIRE!  
THIS IS A BREAK! WAIT TILL MR. GRANT  
HEARS ABOUT THIS!

**CRAK!**

DEPUTY!

SOMEONE KILLED THE  
DEPUTY, WOLF! LET'S  
GO GET 'EM!

BLAM!  
BLAM!

WE NICKED SOME ONE, WOLF, BUT HE  
GOT AWAY! C'MON, WE'LL NOTIFY THE NEAREST  
RANCHER, AND HE CAN GET THE SHERIFF  
WHILE WE PUSH ON TO CHIEF SITTING  
BIRD!

THAT NIGHT  
...

EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE NOT  
ONE OF THE TRIBE, RED FIRE,  
YOU ARE ONE OF OUR BLOOD  
AND WE WILL LISTEN...

I COME TO WARN YOU THAT THE  
RAILROAD PEOPLE WILL SEND FOR  
THE TROOPS UNLESS YOU STOP  
FIGHTING THEM AND BLOWING  
UP THEIR TRACKS...

MY WARRIORS ONLY PROTECT THE LAND GIVEN US BY THE GREAT WHITE FATHER IN WASHINGTON! WE DO NOT TOUCH THE TRACKS. WE ONLY FIGHT THOSE WHO TRESPASS!



IF THE LAND  
WAS GIVEN TO  
THEM, WHO  
WOULD WANT  
TO TAKE IT  
AWAY?

I GO NOW CHIEF WITH  
YOUR MESSAGE, BUT I  
WILL RETURN WITH  
WORD FROM THE  
SHERIFF!

GO, RED  
FIRE! WE WILL  
AWAIT  
YOUR  
RETURN!



LET'S LOOK INTO THIS, WOLF! IF THE TRACKS WENT  
STRAIGHT, INSTEAD OF GOING THROUGH THE RESERVATION,  
IT WOULD COME BY THIS RANCH...



WE HAD  
COUNTED ON THE RAILROAD COMING THROUGH  
HERE! WE NEED THE MONEY WE'D GET FROM  
THE SALE, BUT WHEN THE TRACK TURNED,  
MR. GRANT WAS NICE ENOUGH TO OFFER  
US SOME MONEY ANYWAY!

YOU SOLD  
OUT FOR  
WHAT HE  
OFFERED?

YEP!  
LIKE PAW  
SAID WE  
NEED THE  
MONEY!



AND SO IT WENT IN HOUSE AFTER HOUSE... ALL HAD SOLD OUT TO GRANT AT HIS PRICE

LOOKS LIKE MR. GRANT TURNED THE RAILROAD ON PURPOSE SO'S HE COULD BUY UP THE LAND AT THE RIGHT PRICE THEN RESELL IT TO THE RAILROAD! THIS'LL MAKE MIGHTY INTERESTING NEWS TO THE SHERIFF, WOLF!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN TOWN...

RED FIRE KILLED THE DEPUTY... JOHN HERE SAW HIM DO IT! AN' GOT A BULLET FOR TRYING TO STOP HIM!

YEAH, SHERIFF, LET'S GET 'IM, BEFORE HE KILLS AGAIN!

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL FORM A POSSE, BUT WE TAKE HIM ALIVE!

GET SOME OF THE MEN TOGETHER AND WRECK THE ENGINE WHILE THE POSSE IS OUT OF TOWN! STRAIGHTEN THE TRACKS SO THAT THE TRAIN GOES OVER THE CLIFF!

YEAH! THAT OUGHT TO HOLD UP THE SCHEDULE ABOUT A MONTH!

I WANT YOU TO KNOW, GRANT, I DON'T THINK RED FIRE KILLED THAT DEPUTY, BUT I WANT TO HEAR HIS STORY...

YOU'RE TOO SOFT, SHERIFF—THOSE INJUNS ARE OUT TO GET US AND WE GOT TO STOP THEM FIRST!



HERE'S WHERE WE PART COMPANY, LIGHTNING! LOOKS LIKE THE ENGINEER NEEDS SOME HELP!

NEVER MIND, RED FIRE — GET THE GANG THAT'S ATTACKING THE TRAIN!

THIS TRAIN IS GOING TO COME TO A MIGHTY SUDDEN STOP IF I DON'T WARN THE ENGINEER, WOLF!

STOP THE TRAIN! THE TRACKS LEAD TO THE EDGE OF A CLIFF!

SCREEECH!

LOOKS LIKE YOUR MEN,  
GRANT—PEARS LIKE YOU  
GOT A LOT OF EXPLAININ'  
TO DO!

AND ASK  
HIM ABOUT FORCING  
THE ROAD THROUGH THE INDIAN  
RESERVATION WHILE HE'S BEEN BUYING  
UP RIGHT-O-WAY PROPERTY  
HIMSELF!

YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH  
ME BEFORE YOU PROVE ANYTHING! HA! HA!  
HA! AND YOU AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' BUT  
TIRED HORSES!

COME BACK, GRANT! THE  
REVERSE CONTROLS HAVE  
BEEN SHOT OUT!

TOO BAD HE  
COULDNT STAND TRIAL FOR  
ALL THE EVIL HE HAS DONE,  
SHERIFF!

HE'LL BE  
PUNISHED BY A LAW GREATER THAN OURS,  
RED FIRE! AND THANKS TO YOU, THE RAILROAD  
CAN GET THROUGH WITHOUT ANY MORE  
BLOOD SHED!

The  
END

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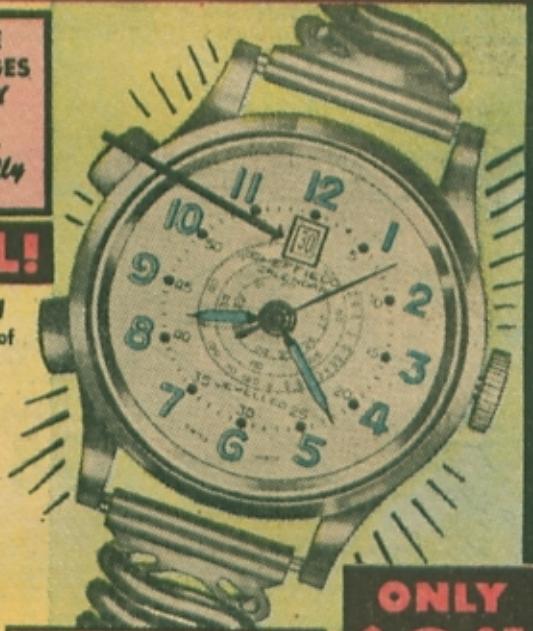
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